

# MARK 6

## Jesus Rejected at Nazareth

1 For ver. 1-6, see Matt. 13:54-58; [Luke 4:16-30] He went away from there and came to [Matt. 2:23; Luke 4:23] his hometown, and his disciples followed him. 2And [ch. 1:21; Luke 4:31; 6:6; 13:10; [Acts 13:14]; See Matt. 4:23] on the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and [See Matt. 7:28] many who heard him were astonished, saying, “Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands?”

3 [Luke 4:22; John 6:42] Is not this [Matt. 13:55] the carpenter, the son of Mary and [See ch. 3:31] brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?” And [See Matt. 11:6] they took offense at him. 4And Jesus said to them, [Luke 4:24; John 4:44; [Jer. 11:21; 12:6; John 7:5]] **“A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household.”** 5And [ch. 9:23; Gen. 19:22] he could do no mighty work there, except that [See ch. 5:23] he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them. 6And [Matt. 8:10] he marveled because of their unbelief.

[Matt. 9:35; 11:1; Luke 8:1; 13:22] And he went about among the villages teaching.

- ***At first it seems like this is going to be a good homecoming.***
- ***It seems as though these people are going to recognize that there is something very special about Jesus.***
- ***“Where did he get these things?” I thought these people would see that Jesus did not learn any of this from being there around them***
- ***But He learned everything from another source, His Father in heaven.***

- ***But it turned out that they were not going to give praise to God.***
  - ***They were too concerned with Jesus's past and the way he was raised.***
  - ***"Mary's son" it appears that this was a stab at Jesus for being an illegitimate child, because they do not mention Joseph.***
  - ***It's as though they are saying, "Mary's son, the one born in sin."***
  - ***They rank his brothers above him, even though Jesus was the firstborn. (all of his brothers and sisters are right here)***
  - ***Remember from the end of Mark 3 that his family had already tried to go bring Jesus back when he was teaching.***
    - ***Even his family did not fully approve of what Jesus was doing.***
- ***A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown.***
  - ***The people there were distracted by Jesus's upbringing, his family, the "scandal" from their family's history.***
  - ***They were too distracted to see the miraculous works of Jesus, which they should have noticed as even more of a miracle***
    - ***Jesus by their own confession was trained as a carpenter, not a priest, scribe, or prophet***
    - ***Yet they dismissed, because they knew his history.***
  - ***They were too distracted to listen to Jesus's message.***
    - ***They heard his message, but they weren't listening.***
    - ***They were busy thinking of all the reasons God wouldn't use this man for His Kingdom.***
- ***Their lack of faith had a negative impact on their town.***
  - ***Jesus couldn't work many miracles because their faith was lacking.***
- ***What about us?***
  - ***Is our family, community, neighborhood, town, city, in danger of missing out on the message and blessings of Jesus, because our faith is lacking?***
  - ***Are we distracted by the history of the leaders around us to the point that we're not listening to what they are saying?***
  - ***Forgive people of their past, when that past includes a wrong against you, forgive them.***
    - ***When that past has nothing to do with you, forgive them***
    - ***Don't think that we can limit who God has called to speak truth and work in mighty ways.***

## Jesus Sends Out the Twelve Apostles

7 ch. 3:13-15; For ver. 7-11, see Matt. 10:1, 5, 9-14; Luke 9:1, 3-5; [Luke 10:4-11; 22:35] And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. 8 He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belts— 9 but to Acts 12:8 wear sandals and not put on two tunics. 6:9 Greek *chiton*, a long garment worn under the cloak next to the skin. 10 And he said to them, “Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there. 11 And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, Acts 13:51; [Neh. 5:13; Acts 18:6] shake off the dust that is on your feet See ch. 1:44 as a testimony against them.” 12 Luke 9:6 So they went out and Matt. 10:7, 8 proclaimed Matt. 3:2; 4:17 that people should repent. 13 [See ver. 12 above] And they cast out many demons and James 5:14 anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.

- **Things to notice in this passage:**
  - ***He sent them out – we need to be sent out by the local church, this is seen again when the church is at work in the book of Acts***
    - ***We can’t go off on our own, we need to have the church’s blessing to go out and represent Christianity to the world.***
  - ***They went with a partner – we need to have another person to endure with us, somebody to hold us to a high standard, (iron sharpening iron) and to be a second witness.***
  - ***They were given authority – some things last from the time we’re saved until we die, but there are times, special seasons that we are called to a specific task/mission and it will not be forever***
    - ***But, only for a short amount of time.***

- *Make it count*
- *This was their first assignment.*
  - *They had been watching and learning from Jesus, and now it was their turn to be sent into the world for a short time to practice what He had taught them.*
  - *They were not to take money or provisions with them, but sent out as poor men to accept the grace given to them by people they would serve*
    - *Later in Luke 22:36 we see that Jesus did not make this a requirement for every mission.*
- *In verses 10 and 11 we see that we are not representing ourselves, but Jesus and God's kingdom*
  - *We aren't to be offended or defensive nor take it personally if there is no conversion or if there is outright rejections of Jesus.*
  - *We are told to go, the Holy Spirit is working in ways we can't see.*
  - *We need, we must stay humble and serving and allow people to accept or reject from us, because we may be the planter of the seed, or the waterer and another comes to gather the produce.*

## The Death of John the Baptist

14 For ver. 14-29, see Matt. 14:1-12; Luke 9:7-9 King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' 6:14 Greek *his* name had become known. Some 6:14 Some manuscripts *He* said, ch. 8:28; Matt. 16:14 "John the Baptist 6:14 Greek *baptizer*, also verse 24 has been raised from the dead. That is why these miraculous powers

are at work in him.” 15 [See ver. 14 above] But others said, “He is Elijah.” And others said, “He is [See Matt. 21:11] a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.” 16 But when Herod heard of it, he said, “John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.” 17 [Luke 3:19, 20] For it was Herod who had sent and seized John and [Matt. 11:2; John 3:24] bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife, because he had married her. 18 [See ver. 17 above] For John had been saying to Herod, [Lev. 18:16; 20:21] “It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.” 19 And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to put him to death. But she could not, 20 for Herod [Matt. 14:5; 21:26] feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he [ch. 12:37; [ch. 4:16]] heard him gladly.

- ***Herod had a fear of losing his power, making his new wife happy, and pleasing/impressing the people around him.***
- ***That’s a dangerous combination***
  - ***He feared John and had kept him safe***
  - ***Even though John the Baptist had called for Herod to repent of taking his brother’s wife.***

21 But an opportunity came when Herod [Gen. 40:20] on his birthday [1 Kgs. 3:15; Esth. 1:3; 2:18] gave a banquet for his nobles and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. 22 For when Herodias’s daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests. And the king said to the girl, “Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it to you.” 23 And he vowed to her, “Whatever you ask me, I will give you, [Esth. 5:3; 7:2] up to half of my kingdom.” 24 And she went out and said to her mother, “For what should I

ask?” And she said, “The head of John the Baptist.” 25And she came in immediately with haste to the king and asked, saying, “I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.” 26And the king was exceedingly sorry, but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her. 27And immediately the king sent an executioner with orders to bring John’s 6:27 Greek his head. He went and beheaded him in the prison 28and brought his head on a platter and gave it to the girl, and the girl gave it to her mother. 29When his See Matt. 9:14 disciples heard of it, they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

- ***This is a horrible story***
- ***It would appear at first reading that John the Baptist, one of the most holy and God-fearing men to ever lived,***
  - ***Died at the request of some immature girl and her mother.***
  - ***Was John’s life so unimportant that God allowed him to be killed because Herod offered a reward for his wife’s daughter’s dance skills?***
- ***Herod made many mistakes:***
  - ***He cared more about what others thought of him than God or doing the right thing.***
  - ***He could have easily laughed off the girl’s request and not done it***
  - ***But I think it was the classic set up of pride:***
  - ***I said I would do this and if I have to do something evil in order to make it happen I will***
- ***He would have loss the “respect” of the men at the banquet***
- ***He would have loss the respect of his wife and her daughter.***

- *He would have been made a liar.*
- *Instead he became a murderer.*
- *Be quick to listen and slow to speak.*
- *As Jesus said, let your yes be yes and no be no.*
- *Our words carry weight, and this is a message directly toward myself*
  - *We, I can't just say things. My words need to be honored and believed as true, because I will use those words to bring the gospel message to people.*
  - *If I throw around promises and agreements flippantly and don't follow through on trivial matters, why should people listen to me when I'm speaking of important things?*
- *Don't make promises, or even statements that set us up for a sin either way.*
  - *Herod was going to be a liar, or a murderer.*
- *Our choices will probably not seem as drastic,*
- *but if my choices leads somebody to reject the gospel, because my words can't be trusted, isn't that worse?*
- *Keep your words, and reputation pure so when you bring the words of life to people they know you are honest, because they've already seen and witnessed our integrity before.*